



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Man Sentenced to Seven Months of Incarceration For Threatening Man in a Bias-Related Crime - Call to 911 and Quick Police Work Led to Defendant's Arrest -

WASHINGTON - Charles Grant, 36, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced today to seven months of incarceration for threatening to stab a man in a bias-related crime, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Grant was convicted by a jury in July 2011 of misdemeanor threats with a bias enhancement, following a trial in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. He was sentenced by the Honorable Herbert B. Dixon Jr.

According to the government's evidence, on March 18, 2011, at about 3:50 a.m., the victim and two of his friends were walking near the corner of Barry Street and Georgia Avenue NW. They walked past Grant, who began calling the victim names, using anti-homosexual slurs. Grant then followed the victim and his friends, continued with the name-calling, and threatened to stab and injure the victim. As the victim approached a fast-food restaurant at the corner, he was able to call 911 and give a description of his assailant.

About 10 minutes later, an officer from the Metropolitan Police Department spotted the defendant a few blocks from the restaurant and apprehended him.

The misdemeanor threats charge carried a sentence of up to six months in jail. Under the District of Columbia's law governing bias-related crimes, however, a bias enhancement can lead to a sentence and fine that is up to 1 ½ times the maximum for the underlying offense. In this case, Judge Dixon imposed the additional jail time under the enhancement.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen acknowledged the efforts of those who worked on the case from the Metropolitan Police Department, including Detective Kristal Boyd and Officer Von Galery. He also thanked those who worked on the case from the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Assistant U.S. Attorney Kendra Briggs, Legal Assistant Agnes

“Ella” Heard, and Paralegal Specialists Brenda Williams and Darline Douglas. Finally, he commended the efforts of Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian A. Lichter, who prosecuted the case.

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